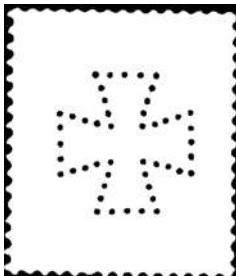
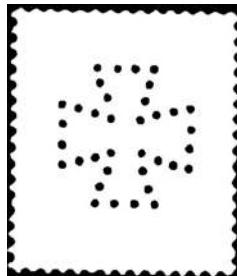


HOULDER STEAMSHIP LINES

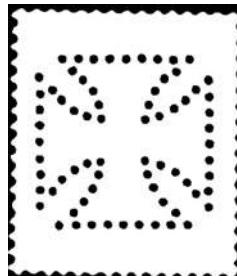
Dave Hill



Des 0305.01



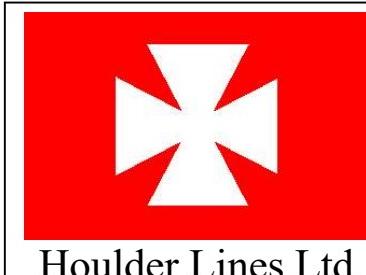
Des 0310.01



Des 0320.01

I have noticed in an old directory that the flag of the Houlder Steamship Line has a Maltese cross on it, similar to our design perfins Des 0305.01, Des 0310.01 and Des 0320.01. No postmark information is recorded for the first two of these dies that might tie them with Houlder. Des 0320.01 is known used with Gorton, Manchester postmarks, is there any link between Gorton and Houlder Steamship Line?

Can any members provide postmark information on the other two dies that might tie them in with Houlder Lines?



Houlder Brothers & Co. was formed in 1856 in London and operated with chartered tonnage until 1861. The Houlder Line company went through many changes until the Houlder name disappeared in the 1980's. Throughout the period of the company they used the Maltese cross symbol on their ships funnels and flags.